



PO Box 700  
Jamestown, NY 14702-0700

ELECTRIC  
DISTRICT HEAT  
WATER  
WASTEWATER  
SOLID WASTE

**NEWS RELEASE: For immediate release, 12/6/05**

## **UTILITY RATE INCREASES SET FOR 2006**

After many weeks of study, the Board of Public Utilities voted today to support staff-recommended rate increases for 2006 utility services in the Wastewater and Solid Waste divisions.

The rate increases translate to the following monthly increases based upon average residential Jamestown customer consumption:

Wastewater            \$1.84 per month  
(Approved by City Council 12/03 to become effective 1/1/06.)

Solid Waste            \$0.50 per month

BPU General Manager Wally Haase explained, "The Board felt compelled to initiate the increases to fund significant capital projects necessary to properly manage each division. For instance, the Wastewater Treatment Plant **MUST** replace its rotating biological contactors at the treatment plant. The contactors are the workhorses in the sewage treatment process and they have reached the end of their useful life. The rate increase is a part of a multiyear rate increase adopted by the Board and City Council in 2004. This will allow the Wastewater Division to afford the necessary equipment upgrades while limiting the amount of money needed to be borrowed."

Haase went on to explain, "The increase planned for the Solid Waste Division will finance a vehicle replacement plan that plans purchase of a new vehicle every other year until all are replaced."

"The increases in these Divisions are very specific to significant repairs or equipment purchases that must be made to continue optimum utility operations," continued Haase, "The utility will realize operations and maintenance savings by upgrading its facilities and equipment."

"Just as homeowners and businesses must budget for maintenance and equipment replacement issues, the BPU does too," said Haase, "We have postponed these issues as long as we can and have chosen to implement smaller increases now, rather than larger ones next year."

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